



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2006 NOELANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nadine Nishioka called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nadine Nishioka, Jim Harwood, Gary Andersen, Hank Chapin, Paul Holtrop, Dwight Jackson, Jeff McNeill, George Nakano, Chuck Pearson and Milton Ragsdale.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Kessler, Salvatore Lanzilotti.

GUESTS: Senator Brian Taniguchi and Poni Daines (Senator Taniguchi's Office staff); Representative Kirk Caldwell; Jim Manke (University of Hawaii); Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Capt. John Whalen (Honolulu Fire Department), Detective Narbin, Sgt. John Martin (Honolulu Police Department); Tom Heinrich, Bob Farrell (Makakilo.com), Grace Furukawa, Cindy Ramirez, Mari Vermeer, Tony Vossbrink, Kazu Vossbrink, and Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Capt. John Whalen distributed his report and highlighted the following:

1. Statistics for the month of January include no structure, one car, and the rest of the calls were emergency responses.
2. Community Relations

Fire Safety Tip: Every home should have a **WORKING** smoke detector installed near each sleeping area and on every level. Since cooking vapors and steam can set off a smoke detector, the detector should be located away from the kitchen or bathroom. Wall-mounted detectors should be positioned 4 to 12 inches below the ceiling and away from air vents.

3. The following results are from a survey conducted of 80,000 elementary school students in which almost 48,000 responded:

Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the homes had smoke detectors and 2 % were not certain whether one existed. Of the 87%, 67% of the families tested their detector that month and only 71% of the smoke detectors were operational.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) –Detective John Narbin distributed the monthly stats and reported the following:

1. The stats have the usual fluctuations of increases and decreases. In particular, beat 750 saw increases in burglaries and UEMV's, but there was a decrease in thefts. Beat 752 saw increases in thefts and burglaries, but UEMV's decreased.
2. Det. Harbin noted the burglary prevention checklist in the report and advised victims of burglaries not to touch the crime scene to aid HPD in the collection of finger prints and evidence.

Questions and answers and comments followed.

1. In response to Andersen's question regarding the burglary involving a Board of Water Supply (BWS) worker that occurred in Manoa Trail, Detective Narbin explained that the victim was

confronted by two suspects carrying a gun and a machete. The suspects were possibly homeless people, and HPD has increased presence in the area.

2. An area resident complained of speeding on Manoa Road in front of Manoa School.

Chair Nishioka thanked Detective Narbin for attending the meeting.

BOARD OPEN FORUM:

1. Hank Chapin read statement.
2. Chuck Pearson would like to introduce a resolution relating to public lands.
3. The Board would like to discuss the transfer of Paradise Park to the University of Hawaii (UH) at the next meeting.

FILLING OF BOARD VACANCIES:

Harwood moved and Pearson seconded the nomination of Jeff McNeill to fill the vacancy in subdistrict 4.

Discussion followed:

1. McNeill introduced himself and expressed interest in serving on the Manoa Neighborhood Board as a representative of subdistrict 4. McNeill is a student at the university of Hawaii currently working on getting a PhD.
2. In response to Andersen's question regarding how long McNeill has lived in Hawaii, McNeill responded four years.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE—Hubert Minn, Deputy Director, Customer Services Department, distributed Mayor Hannemann's newsletter and reported the following:

1. All of the green waste is taken to a composting facility for recycling. If you are a gardener, you may want to look for the local compost product in garden shops under the brand name MENEHUNE MAGIC. The City and the composter also provide free mulch at sites around the island. Check the website for locations or call 692-5408. The City separately collects green waste curbside twice per month and at all of the City's refuse convenience centers. Householders may also drop-off green-waste directly at the Leeward and Windward composting facilities. Commercial green waste is also restricted at City disposal facilities to no more than 10% of the truckload.
2. There is no mailing of city press releases. All are posted on the city's website <http://www.co.honolulu.hi.us/csd/publiccom/honnews05/index.htm> and are emailed to media, the city council, and department heads.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

Vice Chair Harwood would like to know if turning curb-side green waste pick up goes into a mulching program versus to a landfill site as previously reported. The Board says that mulching would save space for landfill sites.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI- Distributed her report and highlighted the following:

1. For the past few months the City Council has been working on several issues to somehow relieve our residents of the large increase in real property assessments. This month the Budget Committee reviewed several measures in anticipation of the Mayor's budget proposal.
2. Bill 12—The bill focuses on establishing a new way of setting real property tax rates so that initially, average real property tax bill for each property, as well as revenues derived from each class of property, is unchanged from year to year, adjusting for inflation.

The Chair thanked Councilmember Kobayashi for her report.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII (UH) —Jim Manke reported the following:

1. Longtime Vice President for Student Affairs, Doris Ching recently retired.
2. Informational meetings regarding the proposed University Affiliated research Center have concluded. Manoa Chancellor Denise Konan has recommended against the proceeding, citing up-front costs and perceived lack of support on the campus for UARC. President McLain has said he will make a recommendation to the Board of Regents no later than about two weeks from now.
3. Representative Waters, will bring his committee on Higher Education to the campus to hear a number of bills.
4. The Department of Theatre and Dance will be staging a Jingju-Beijing Opera-performance starting Friday February 10. The opera is regarded as the best in any university in the US.

MANOA RESIDENTS AND OTHERS:

Resolution requested by constituent regarding City Council Bill 81 and Resolution 05-412, concerning property taxes:

Holtrop moved and Ragsdale seconded to support a proposed resolution introduced by Dr. Kuboyama. Dr. Roy Kuboya mainitiated a request for a resolution that would: 1) Urge the administration to submit an operational budget reflecting reduced property tax rates for residential properties. 2) Amend Bill 81.

Discussion followed:

1. Member McNeill raised concerns with the language stated in Dr. Kuboyama's proposal as the language seemed unclear.
2. Member Nakano suggested the resolution be drafted clearly and presented to the Board.
3. Councilmember Kobayashi mentioned that the Mayor's proposal is almost done.
4. The motion was withdrawn by Member Holtrop, and the Board agreed to support Bill 12 instead as stated in Councilmember Kobayashi's report.

Holtrop moved and Ragsdale seconded to support bill 12 as stated in Councilmember Kobayashi's report. Bill 12 (2006) focuses on establishing a new way of setting real propeerty tax rates so that initially, average real property tax bill for each property, as well as revenues derived from each class of property, is unchanged from year to year, adjusting for inflation.

The motion carried 9-0-1. (Ayes: Harwood, Nishioka, Holtrop, Nakano, Pearson, Andersen, McNeill, Jackson, Chapin. Abstain: Jackson)

PRESENTATIONS:

FREAR HALL RENNOVATIONS — Jan Yokota, UH Director of Capital Improvement Projects, reported the following:

1. There is a considerable need for student housing. UH-Manoa currently has 3,000 beds and needs at least 2,000 more. Our plans are to renovate or redevelop the student housing projects containing the 3,000 beds currently available and develop new buildings to house the additional 2,000 beds.
2. The first project to be developed is at the site of the current Frear Hall, which is unoccupied. We are proposing to demolish Frear and build a project that will be a maximum of 12 stories and 820 beds in its place.
3. Frear is adjacent to the International Gateway House, which is 10 stories tall, and Johnson Hall.
4. American Campus Communities was selected by the Board of Regents to develop this project and Glenn Miura, an architect with CDS International, which is part of ACC's team was at the presentation to describe the project concept.
5. We are at the initial stage of the project, which is the Environmental Assessment process. An EA is required for this project because it is on State lands. The draft EA describes the overall concept and maximum size of the project. It was published on January 8 and there is a 30-day comment period that ends on February 7. We have extended this period until February 10 to allow the Neighborhood Boards to submit their comments.
6. The draft EA has been distributed to interested agencies and community organizations.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to member Andersen's question regarding adequate parking at the new facility, UH's response is that there is no parking in the building, but they are studying their policies to see what can be instituted.
2. Member McNeill asked UH representatives to consider the number of bicycle stalls (200) being planned for the number of students (800) that will be living in the new facility. He raised concerns with regards to parking of mopeds in areas designated for bicycles as well. UH is looking into these issues, but no specific location has been named.
3. Yokota mentioned there will be no kitchens in response to a question from the Board.
4. Member Andersen raised further concerns regarding parking and the number of students the building can accommodate. UH is researching the issue.
5. In response to Andersen's question regarding co-ed dorms, Yokota replied yes initially, but it is still in the planning stages and is soliciting public opinion from the Board as well as the EA.
6. In response to member McNeill's question regarding an energy conservation design, the response is that the new facility is designed to reduce heat based on its position during sunrise and sunsets. The building will be mostly open-air, and air conditioning will only be available in the rooms. The heat from the air conditioning will be used to heat the water in the building.
7. In response to McNeill's question regarding the timeline, preliminary concepts will be presented within two months.
8. The Board raised concerns regarding the overflow of parking that spills into the valley when UH is in session and requested UH consider alternative studies.

9. In response to Vice Chair Harwood's question regarding a master plan to integrate bicycles into the UH campus since they are presently illegal, Yokota would follow up.
10. In response to member Andersen's question regarding the cost per student, Yokota replied, it would cost each student between \$4-6 thousand a year. The money goes into the rental fund, the overall housing fund.
11. The Chair made comments with regards to her experience in Japan and multi-level automated parking facilities for bicycles.
12. Tom Heinrich suggested that the EA should be made available at the public library and presentations should also be made to the McCully Neighborhood Board 8.

The Chair thanked Yokota for attending the meeting.

IMPACT OF USING CELLULAR TELEPHONES WHILE DRIVING—Chuck Pearson introduced Senator Taniguchi who reported the following:

1. The issue is controversial at the Legislature because it is difficult to determine whether accidents are caused solely by cell phone usage.
2. The Legislative reference Bureau's (LRB) contradict studies done on the mainland.
3. The issue is being addressed by the Legislature this session. The bill has currently been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee (JUD) and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Military and Government affairs (TMG).
4. HPD won't comment, but has testified that people drive while engaging in other activities such as eating or putting on make-up.

NEW BUSINESS- There was none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- There was none.

BOARD ADMINISTRATION & PLANNING

Treasurer's Report – Paul Holtrop reported the following reported the following: 1) Operational Balance to date is \$750.62 2) Publicity balance to date is \$1471.00 3) refreshment balance to date is \$120.00.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Jackson moved and Holtrop seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 2, 2005 as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

Holtrop moved and Pearson seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 7, 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Manoa Neighborhood Board's next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at the Noelani Elementary School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Harwood moved and Ragsdale seconded that the Manoa Neighborhood Board adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by:

Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Assistant